

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

### **Objection to the Specification**

An abstract on a separate sheet is provided herewith.

### **35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph**

Claims 1-4 were objected to because of informalities, and Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-4 have been amended to remove the objections and rejections.

### **35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 1-3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Great Britain (GB 115945) in view of Rubber Technology and Manufacture (Tyre constructions) and Elastomerics article (How Technological Innovations Have Affected the Tire Industry's Structure. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons. Amended claim 1 now recites radially inwardly extending sidewalls wherein a portion of the sidewalls are substantially flat in the uninflated condition. None of the cited references alone or in combination suggest or teach sidewalls portions, which are substantially flat in the uninflated condition. For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

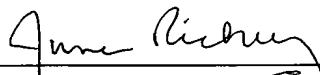
New claims 6-14 have been added which are directed to additional novel features of the invention and which are supported by the specification.

In light of this amendment, all of the claims now pending in the subject patent

Appln No. 10/031,756  
Amdt dated January 28, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of October 28, 2003

application are allowable. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



---

June E. Rickey, Registration No. 40,144  
Attorney for Applicants

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company  
Department 823  
1144 East Market Street  
Akron, Ohio 44316-0001  
Telephone: (330) 796-3328  
Facsimile: (330) 796-9018